



City of New Carrollton Feral Cat Program

Project #

25-10110

County: Prince George's County

Number of Cats Spayed: 48

Number of Dogs Spayed:

Number of Cats Neutered: 44

Number of Dogs Neutered:

Amount Received: \$5,760

Amount Remaining (to be returned to MDA): \$0.00

Project Synopsis:

The New Carrollton Police Department's Animal Control Division successfully implemented a feral cat spay/neuter program to reduce the community's free-roaming cat population and improve animal welfare. The original project goal was to complete 72 spay/neuter procedures during the grant period. Through efficient use of resources and strong community partnerships, the program exceeded expectations, performing a total of 92 surgeries (spays and neuters combined). In addition, 90% of the kittens trapped were successfully placed into foster care through our rescue partners, ensuring they were given the opportunity for socialization and adoption. Importantly, not a single cat or kitten was transported to the Prince George's County Animal Shelter, underscoring the program's success in keeping animals out of the shelter system while directly benefiting the local community.



Maryland Department of Agriculture

Spay and Neuter Grants Program



Project Description:

The New Carrollton Police Department's Animal Control Division launched a targeted feral cat spay/neuter initiative to address the challenges associated with the city's free-roaming cat population. The project was designed to humanely reduce overpopulation, improve the health of community cats, and prevent the cycle of uncontrolled breeding that strains local resources. Working in partnership with rescue organizations and veterinary providers, the program utilized humane trapping methods, provided spay/neuter surgeries, vaccinations, and ensured that cats were returned to their colonies in healthier condition.

Summary of Approach:

The New Carrollton Police Department's Animal Control Division approached the feral cat overpopulation issue through a humane, community-based strategy. Using humane traps, cats were safely captured and transported for veterinary care. Each cat received spay/neuter surgery, vaccinations, and basic medical evaluation before being returned to its original location, ensuring healthier colonies and preventing future litters.

Accomplishments:

Exceeded Surgical Goal: Completed 92 spay/neuter surgeries, surpassing the original goal of 72 by 28%. Successful Kitten Placement: 90% of kittens trapped were placed into foster homes through rescue partners, providing socialization and adoption opportunities. No Shelter Intake: Not a single cat or kitten was transported to the Prince George's County Animal Shelter, reducing shelter burden and promoting positive animal outcomes. Strengthened Community Partnerships: Collaborated effectively with local rescue organizations, veterinary providers, and community volunteers to implement humane and efficient trapping and surgery procedures. Demonstrated a Sustainable Model: The program provided a replicable framework for humane, community-based feral cat management that can be continued or expanded in future initiatives.

Lessons Learned:

Vehicle Reliability is Critical: The Animal Control van experienced multiple breakdowns, causing delays in trapping and transport. Planning for backup transportation or maintenance contingencies is essential. Weather Impacts Field Work: Poor weather reduced trapping opportunities at times. Flexibility in scheduling and extended project timelines help accommodate unforeseen conditions. Strong Rescue Partnerships Enhance Outcomes: Collaborating with foster and rescue organizations was key to placing kittens successfully and avoiding shelter intake. Early coordination ensures smooth transitions from trapping to foster placement. Community Engagement Matters: Educating residents about the program improved trapping success and foster recruitment. Clear communication and outreach can increase community participation and support.

For More Information Contact:

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